



# NEWSLETTER

## APRIL 2006

### **THE 2006 REUNION in ALBUQUERQUE**

The Association of Retired Fish and Wildlife Service Employees annual reunion is scheduled for Monday thru Friday, October 9-13, 2006, during the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. The Reunion will be headquartered at the *MCM Elegante Hotel* located at 2020 Menaul Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87107. Thanks to Pete Stine and his colleagues for negotiating a special room rate of \$89 + tax, which includes a daily full hot breakfast buffet and two free cocktails. Room rates are valid for 3 days before and 3 days after the reunion, if space is available. It is recommended that you make your reservations early as once the block of rooms is gone, you will be left on your own. Reservations can be made by phoning: **1-866-650-4900**

And for those wishing to bring an RV, 'dry' camping will be permitted in the hotel back parking lot. We also encourage you to bring or rent a car as it will enable you to see more of the area.

An exciting agenda is planned including attending the Wednesday morning mass ascension of balloons, an icebreaker-social and banquet with music and entertainment as well as informative workshop sessions geared for Government retirees. A brief schedule looks like this. Monday is Retiree Association Board meeting and beginning of registration; Tuesday workshops and icebreaker-social; Wednesday the early morning mass balloon ascension, free time, Heritage Committee meeting, and annual banquet; Thursday a field trip to Bosque del Apache NWR; a Special Shapes Rodeo that evening, including an opportunity to help inflate and pack up one or two of the participating balloons; and, Friday balloon prize grab event, and final session.

The Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta is the World's largest ballooning event. It limits itself to 700 hot air balloons (down from 1,000 balloons in 2000). It is also declared "the most photographed event in the World." The Fiesta lasts 9 days, beginning on the first Saturday in October. It hosts a variety of events including mass ascensions, contests, balloon glows, distance races, and even a gas balloon race.

If you are connected to the internet, please check out this web site on the reunion. It has the complete Retiree Reunion information, schedule, and local Albuquerque information. It will be updated if events change or additional information becomes available.

<http://training.fws.gov/history/retirees.html>

Included in this Newsletter is a pre-registration form for the 2006 Retiree's Reunion. It contains two forms on one page so each

participant can list his or her individual information and preferences. The cost is \$50 per person again this year if submitted by September 1, 2006, or \$60 after that. Your payment must accompany the pre-registration form in order for you to be considered registered. Are you noticing that we want your early commitment so we have time (and money) to hire sufficient buses, make name tags, order food, etc.?

### **BOARD of DIRECTORS ELECTIONS**

The Retiree's Association Board of Directors needs to hold elections for three Board positions this year. The three positions will be for a 3-year term beginning in January 1, 2007, to the nine-member Board. If you are willing to help guide the affairs of the *Retiree Association* or if you know of a bashful someone who would do a good job, please get in touch with **Wendell Ogden**. He has agreed to assemble a slate of candidates for the membership to vote on. He can be reached at [WOgden8991@aol.com](mailto:WOgden8991@aol.com) or **304-876-3097** -- before June 1, please. Mail-in ballots will be sent with the next *Retirees Newsletter* scheduled for July with the new Board members introduced at the Albuquerque annual reunion.

### **MEMBERSHIP in RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION**

O.K. retirees, it is now time to become a sustaining member of the FWS Retirees Association. Our fledgling organization is sufficiently organized to begin accepting memberships. We are a recognized non-profit organization meaning the membership monies are fully deductible under IRS regulations. Being a tax-exempt, non-profit organization does not mean however, being expense free. During our formative years many of the expenses of our organization were underwritten by the Service. Obviously this cannot continue indefinitely. We have all enjoyed the benefits that the hard working volunteers have produced and it is likely that you want such things as this *Newsletter* to continue. In order for that to happen we all need to provide financial support to our organization.

Although membership is not required to enjoy the benefits of our organization, we strongly encourage each family to step up to the plate and become sustaining members for a mere \$25 per year (or \$75 for 3 years). Incentives for making this decision will be used to cover expenses such as printing and mailing the *Newsletter*, maintaining the current mailing address data base, telephone, IRS and state filing fees, website maintenance and a whole host of miscellaneous expenses

Becoming a Sustaining family membership is voluntary and any member who chooses not to contribute will still receive all the benefits currently available.

Sustaining memberships will receive:

- Acknowledgement of their contribution for tax purposes (we are a 501 (c) 3 tax-exempt organization.)
- A lapel pin with the organizations retiree logo.
- Paid members attending an annual reunion will receive 10 complimentary raffle tickets.
- Eligibility for a special prize at the annual reunion whether or not they are present.
- Annual listing in the newsletter.
- The great satisfaction of knowing that you are supporting the organization that keeps you in touch with people who were a major influence in your life.

To save the hassle of extra paperwork for both you and us, you may pay \$75 for a 3-year family membership. At the end of this *Newsletter* there is a snip-and-send FWS Retirees Association membership form.

### **WHO HAS LONGEST FWS TENURE?**

Recently, a question was asked, "who has had the longest career in the Fish & Wildlife Service?" After some head scratching, the question was put to those FWS retirees with e-mail. Here is a consensus of the answers. Can any of you add to this list?

Atkeson, Tom	49 yrs, 10 mos	Wheeler NWR
Bailey, Vernon,	46 Yrs	Biological Survey
Bologa, Frank	45 ?	Lamar NFH, PA
Carter, Harold	45 yrs, 3 mos	Region 3
Childs, V.L.	~ 45 yrs	Tennessee NWR
Corvin, Robert	50 ++ yrs	Lamar FTC, Lamar, PA
Dinkins, Chestly	45 ++	Lake Ilo NWR, ND
Drummond, Edwin ("Drum")	53 +	Wichita Mtns NWR
Edsall, Tom	long time	Grt Lks Fish Lab, Ann Arbor
Garris, George	long time	Cape Romain NWR
Gatlin, John	49 yrs, 10 mos *	Regional Director, Region 2
Goldman, Ed	51	Biological Survey, 1892
Hall, Jewett	1937---?	Okefenokee NWR
Lard, Claude	50 ++	Realty, R-2-Texas
Lucero, Eufrazio	~ 45	Bosque del Apache NWR
Rich, Jan	46 yrs	B&A Engineering, R-6
Robbins, Chan	60 yrs	Patuxent Research Center
Romero, Doris	49 years ++	Washington D.C. - Finance
Sears, Harry	48+, Age 89	Great Meadows NWR
Sharff, John	49	Malheur NWR, OR
Stickel, Dr. Lucille	1943---?	Director, Patuxent Research
Uhler, Dr. Fran	61 yrs	Patuxent Research Center

\* Forced retirement having reached the then mandatory retirement age of 70

Some names mentioned did not offer specific dates but suggested where to look. No attempt was made to single out just 'FWS' time; career length is based on the 'service computation date' at retirement which includes all Federal service, including military. Some folks are still working, i.e. Ed Drummond who completed his 53<sup>rd</sup> year in March and Harry Sears who just turned 89. Chan Robbins just retired Dec. 31 with 61 years of service.

### **PLAN for the 2007 REUNION**

In a recent conference call between the Retiree Association Board members, it was decided to return to the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, WV, for the **2007** retiree reunion after 2 years at other locations. Please set aside April 19 - 22, 2007. We will gather on Thursday evening April 19 with Friday & Saturday reserved for socializing, workshops and touring, and finishing up Sunday morning after breakfast. A package rate to include lodging, in one of the beautiful dorms, and meals will be offered. The NCTC is the 'home of the Service' and houses its museum and archives. The setting is a walking campus of scattered buildings on the Potomac River and is an unbelievable Fish & Wildlife Service facility.

### **THE FISH and WILDLIFE SERVICE YOU *DON'T* KNOW**

A new series of short features will begin with the next edition of *FWS News* about little-known aspects of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. David Klinger, a senior writer-editor of the National Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, West Virginia, will be authoring this series. Do you know?

- The FWS role and the Great Lakes ore boat *Edmund Fitzgerald* that sank in a 'storm of the century'?
- That a NFH manager was on a 'hit' list discovered after Squeaky Fromme's attempted assassination of President Ford in 1975?
- That a FWS retiree was credited for his military time served in Germany's WWII *werhmout* in computing his retirement annuity?

Are you a story teller? David will be looking for other stories from retirees about little known aspect of the FWS. The only criteria is they must be true (basically) and applicable to the FWS. David can be reached at 1-800-553-9472 x7670.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Judy Pulliam - Association Chairperson	Ph: 706-268-3970
e-mail: Judy_Pulliam@fws.gov	
Denny Holland - Mailing Addresses	Ph: 1-877-831-5591
e-mail: Denny_Holland@fws.gov	
Jerry Grover - Newsletter Editor	Ph: 503-684-1809
e-mail: Groverjerry.judy@att.net	

### **AND YOUR OTHER BOARD MEMBERS**

Blankenship, John (Barbara):	
jb5280@comcast.net;	360-455-5141
French, Jerry (Pat): frenchj@bacavalley.com;	505-445-3835
Norton, Dorothe: dagn@earthlink.net;	651-450-6871.
Ogden, Wendell: WOgden8991@aol.com;	304-876-3097
Quinter, Robbye Jo: Quinter489@aol.com;	703-356-1554.
Stine, Pete (Marlene): stine4@flash.net;	505-821-9066.

### **RETIREE ASSOCIATION PRODUCTS**

The Retiree Association, with the help of Jerry French, has been working with the **Western Heritage Company**. The Association is allowing the use of the Retiree logo on their wide range of products - shirts, gear, belt buckles, etc. They will place it on almost every product in their catalog at no additional cost. Retiree products can now be purchased by calling 1- 800-303-5703 or visit their website at [www.westernheritage.com](http://www.westernheritage.com) and order that way. For example, they are selling a polo shirt in various colors for \$19.95 and will add the Retiree logo - see the Retiree logo in the banner of this Newsletter. Jerry has also

negotiated a deal whereby you can get the regular FWS logo on your product and they will add "Retired," or "Volunteer," etc. at no additional charge. Choices! Choices!

## **CAN YOU HELP?**

Downsizing?? Cleaning?? Among other things, the archives at DC Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery could use reports from state fish commissions, or state fish and game departments. We have a pretty good collection of the federal annual reports of the Fish Commission and Bureau of Fisheries, but mostly just scattered issues of the state reports. I had need of California's, but only found one of their biennial reports in the archives. Much of the federal and state work was intertwined. We are hoping that some of you retirees might have copies of them that you would be willing to donate to DC Booth. For more information, contact Randi Sue Smith, 605-642-7730, x215, or [randi\\_smith@fws.gov](mailto:randi_smith@fws.gov) or DC Booth HNFH, 423 Hatchery Circle, Spearfish, SD 57783.

Thank you! Randi

## **MY HOW WE HAVE GROWN**

Just to show how our Retiree Association reunions have grown, herewith are the participation figures.

1999 @ NCTC - 8 retirees; + spouses = 13  
2000 @ NCTC - 20 something (26?) retirees and spouses  
2001 @ NCTC - 39 Retirees w/spouses = 61 total  
2002 @ Spearfish, SD - 114 retirees + spouses = 200+; with guests D, AD, ARD's at Icebreaker, total near 300  
2003 @ Melbourne, FL - 117 retirees + spouses = 200+; w/Centennial folks at icebreaker, total near 400  
2004 @ NCTC - 84 retirees + spouses and Directorate folks, 200  
2005 @ Portland, OR - 213 retirees & spouses; add current FWS folks & guests, 272+ for the icebreaker

## **E - MAIL and MAILING ADDRESSES ?**

If you have e-mail and *did not* receive an advance copy of this *Newsletter* by e-mail, it means I don't have your current e-mail address or that you have spam blocking software that isn't allowing the batch e-mail from the Retirees Association to your computer.

**To Update or Receive FWS Retiree E-mail** – Send your current e-mail address to: [Groverjerry.judy@att.net](mailto:Groverjerry.judy@att.net)

**To Set Spam Blocking Software** to accept batch messaging from the Retirees Association, set it to receive:

[fws-retiree@lists.fws.gov](mailto:fws-retiree@lists.fws.gov)

This address must be allowed /accepted by your e-mail account.

If you have a mailing address change, please keep Denny advised. It costs too much to have returned mail.

As has been our promise to you, your address is in a secure data base and will not be shared outside of the Fish & Wildlife Service or the Retiree's Association. Also, if you don't want us to use your address, just let us know and you're off our list.

## **PASSING OF COLLEAGUES**

**John G. Hale** died April 04, 2004 at the age of 83. He began his career with the Minnesota Game & Fish as a research fisheries biologist, later moving to EPA. He was in the EPA enforcement investigation division in Denver before he moved to the FWS in the Division of Federal Aide in Denver. He retired in 1985.

Thanks to Helen Hale

**Wood Holbrook** 78, passed away on July 9, 2005, while living in Clearwater, Florida. Born in Beaver, Ohio, he served in the United States Navy in WWII in the Pacific Theater. He was employed for 16 years as a police sergeant for the Department of Defense at the Erie Army Depot. He later transferred to the Ottawa Job Corps Center in Port Clinton, Ohio as an Equipment Instructor and Youth Counselor. Known by everyone as "Woody," he retired in 1982 from the Ottawa NWR, Oak Harbor, Ohio as an Engineering Equipment Operator after a total of 34 years of Federal Government service. Woody is survived by his daughter Priscilla Popson, sons Woody Holbrook Jr., Michael Holbrook, and Charles Holbrook. Woody's son Charles followed his Dad's career in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. As a second generation refuge employee, Charles is currently serving as the Project Leader for the Aransas NWR Complex in Austwell, Texas.

Thanks to Denny Holland

**Rollin Glen Hornbuckle** was born on August 4<sup>th</sup>, 1932 in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Rollin passed away on October 28, 2005 at the age of 73 after a year-long battle with cancer. Rollin graduated from Bartlesville High School in 1950 and then entered the US Air Force. During his four year enlistment, he trained for and became a B-36 bomber mechanic at the Lackland and Chanute Air Force bases and was later stationed at Fairchild Air Force Base. Rollin married his high school sweetheart, Doreen, on December 25<sup>th</sup>, 1950 and the couple went on to raise four daughters, of whom they are very proud. Rollin attended Oklahoma A & M, graduating in 1958 with a BS Degree in Forestry. He worked for US Fish & Wildlife in Albuquerque, New Mexico from 1960-1967 as a land appraiser. In 1967, he went to work for the US Department of Forestry in the San Francisco bay area until 1970 and then transferred back to US Fish & Wildlife as a review appraiser in Portland, Oregon. Rollin was an avid hunter and fisherman who greatly enjoyed the outdoors and spending time with his family and friends. He is survived by his loving wife, Doreen; his four daughters, and his five grandchildren.

Thanks to the Hornbuckle family

**Gene Wilson**, retired agent from California passed away on October 19. Gene spent most of his career in California and at the time of his retirement was the Senior Resident Agent for Southern California in Los Angeles.

Thanks Jerry Smith

**Billy D. Long** passed away on November 21, 2005 at Baylor University Medical Center. Bill worked at Muleshoe NWR from May 9, 1976 to December 26, 1981; Aransas/Matagorda Island NWR from December 27, 1981 to July 23, 1983; Salt Plains NWR from July 24, 1983 to January 16, 1988; and Little River NWR from January 17, 1988 to January 1, 1999. He is survived by his wife Sue.

Thanks Jerry French

**Charles L. "Chuck" Cadieux**, 86, of Albuquerque, died at home on January 14, 2006. Chuck was born September 5, 1919, in Jamestown, ND. He and Elida Meral Brady celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary July 9. He worked for the ND state game and

fish, as a federal game agent in Iowa, for predator and rodent control in SD & TX, and as an information and education officer in both the Washington Office and Albuquerque. He retired to Albuquerque in 1978. He began writing outdoor recreational topics in the early 1940's. He wrote over a thousand magazine articles and wrote eleven books; led travel tours to Mexico, Alaska, and South Africa; served twice on the Board of Directors of the Outdoor Writers Association of America and as its president. He is survived by his wife Elida.  
Thanks to Pete Stine

**Julian Andrew Howard**, 92, passed away January 17, 2006, in Marlow, OK. He received his BS from the University of Oklahoma in 1936. Julian later received his MS from Tulane University in 1939. He served in the United States Army during World War II, seeing one tour of duty in Japan, and rose to the rank of Captain. He married Estella Ruby Talley Bretschneider Howard in 1943. He was a career employee of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, serving as manager of the Salt Plains NWR and the Aransas NWR. He lived on the Wichita Mountains NWR from 1956 to retirement in 1972. Thanks to Don Hawthorne

**Dalles A. (Tex) Carlson** of Mountlake Terrace, WA, passed away on February 18, 2006. Early in his career he worked on numerous NWR's before transferring to the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries in Portland, eventually moving to Seattle. He retired in 1985 from NMFS, Seattle.  
Thanks to Randolph Cross, NOAA

I am sorry to report the recent loss of a friend and coworker. **Robert Edens** passed away on February 14, 2006, after a lengthy battle with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Robert was a graduate of Humboldt State College and earned his Masters Degree from Utah State University. During his Service career he served at Sand Lake NWR, Bosque del Apache NWR and Dungeness NWR. Pam Edens may be contacted at 230 Bluegrass Lane Sequim, Washington 98382.  
Jerry French

**Linda Sue Jacob** passed away March 3. She retired as a secretary in Refuges & Wildlife, Portland. Remembrances to the American Diabetes Association are asked. She is survived by her two daughters, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.  
Thanks to Toni McLaughlin-Stevens

**Art Hawkins** of Hugo, MN, died at his home on March 9. He was 92. Family members said he suffered a heart attack as he was walking his property - a pair of binoculars around his neck. Art was born in Batavia, NY, and parlayed a youngster's love of nature into biology and wildlife degrees from Cornell University and the U. of Minnesota. He was the 3<sup>rd</sup> student to study with Aldo Leopold who remained a great influence throughout his career. His career with the FWS began in 1946 where he left his biggest mark in waterfowl management. He pioneered aerial waterfowl surveys in the U.S. and Canada developing routes that are still in use today. He was the flyway's chief biologist from 1954 until he retired in 1972. He is survived by his wife Betty of 65 years, daughters Amy & Ellen and son Art Jr. "Tex", a FWS manager at Upper Mississippi NWR. There was no funeral or memorial service.  
Thanks to Dorothe Norton

**W. Oliver Cox** passed away April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006, in Penrose, NC. He was 88 years old and had been in declining health. After a stint as a tail gunner with the Navy in the Pacific in WW II, he began a career with the Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife. He was known for his expertise in trout incubation and served as the hatchery manager of the Norfolk NFH, AR, and the Pisgah Forest NFH, NC. When he retired in North Carolina in 1978 after 34 years of service, he began a commercial trout operation of Cox & Sons. Remembrances may be made to the Transylvania County Hospice, P.O. Box 1116, Brevard, NC 28712.  
Thanks to Dick Ivarie & Chuck Carlson

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

[For sustaining Family Membership]

Association of Retired Fish & Wildlife Service Employees

NAME (S) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Ph: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Remit before July 1

For 2006 - - - - - \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

For 2006-07-08 - - - - - \$75 \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send to:

FWS Retirees Association

% John Blankenship, Treasurer

5831 Lake Sinclair Dr. SE

Olympia, WA 98513-5141